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1 Q. What is his name?
2 A. Blandino.
3 Q. B-l-a-n-d-i-n-o?
4 A. Yeah. Yes.
5 Q. Of the Norwood Police Department?
6 A. Who I had never met up until that
7 time when Mr. Lanari had come up to me and they both
8 came up to me simultaneously and we just started
9 talking. I couldn't even tell you what we started
10 talking about in the beginning and then he basically
11 brought up if I knew anybody from the North Haledon
12 Police Department. They were -- actually started to
13 talk about it first, the incident that took place
14 and James Lanari basically said to me that he had
15 been in contact with the North Haledon Police
16 Department. He refused to identify himself because
17 of what had transpired. He said he didn't want to
18 get in trouble because a gentleman by the name of
19 Mark Van was involved in a fight in front of a
20 nightclub and basically when he was being arrested
21 he identified himself as a North Haledon Police
22 Officer and actually showed a police ID with a badge
23 and I was like, oh, really. He goes yeah, I tried
24 contacting North Haledon Police Department and they
25 did not want to accept my call because I refused to

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1 identify myself and then he stated to me do you know
2 anybody up there that, you know, could maybe, you
3 know, pass the information along. At this point I
4 could get into a lot of trouble because I basically
5 un arrested somebody and there was a fight that
6 ensued and, you know, somebody did get hurt. I was,
7 like, you know, I know of someone who was Mark Rowe
8 but I haven't talked to him in years. I said I am
9 -- I'm friends with him, I'll see. So, I had
10 contacted my friend to get in touch with him. He
11 had given me the telephone number. I had called
12 Mark Rowe on his cellular telephone and I told Mark
13 the story about what happened and I was very vague
14 about the story because I had no idea who this
15 gentleman was, Mr. Van, never seen him before,
16 anything, never even heard of him and he basically
17 said to me, you know, John, he goes we had a lot of
18 problems with him at the North Haledon Police
19 Department. He goes he's one of the reasons why we
20 have -- that we don't hire people on resume only
21 anymore. We have a significant application process
22 that we go by now because there was a lot of things
23 that transpired here and, you know, a police officer
24 had gotten in trouble and I said, well, this is the
25 story about, you know, what this gentleman told me,

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1 the Harrington Park Police Department.

2 Q. Did you ask Lanari why he didn't want
3 to disclose his name to the Borough of North
4 Haledon?

5 A. He -- basically he said because he
6 had un arrested him and he didn't want it to fall
7 back on him I guess so he would get in trouble from
8 the NYPD cause the NYPD had no knowledge of the
9 fight -- of, you know, what occurred.

10 Q. There has been testimony, I know you
11 are not privy to it, I am giving you what my
12 recollection of the testimony is, that you advised
13 people from the Borough of North Haledon that the
14 reason you didn't want to give the name is because
15 this individual lived in New Jersey and he's not
16 supposed to live in New Jersey when he is a New York
17 City cop and that is what his concern was. Do you
18 recall that?

19 A. I'm not a hundred -- yes. But, I'm
20 not a hundred percent sure whether or not he lives
21 in New York or New Jersey. That's what Mr. Lanari
22 had said to me.

23 Q. I want to be clear. What reasons did
24 you understand why Lanari didn't want his name
25 disclosed? Give me the reasons.

1 A. Basically for the assault, number one
2 and he said listen I can't give my name up solely
3 for the reason -- not solely for the reason. Number
4 one was for the assault but also because I live in
5 New Jersey and I'm employed by the NYPD. But, I
6 can't prove whether or not he lives -- I don't know
7 where he lives now.

8 Q. I understand. As you saw it, your
9 understanding was he had two reasons. One, he
10 didn't want to show that he lived in New Jersey and
11 two, if I am saying this correctly, he didn't arrest
12 somebody that maybe he should have arrested --

13 A. From what he told me, he un arrested
14 him.

15 Q. What did you understand un arrested
16 to be?

17 A. From what he was telling me, the
18 handcuffs were on behind his back and he turned to
19 his side. From what he told me, he said I'm a cop.
20 I was, like, holy cow. I was, like, wow, you know,
21 I can't believe it. Yeah. From what he was telling
22 me, he kind of, like, pushed him over to the side,
23 kind of got him out of the group. I can't even tell
24 you last time I was in the City. I'm sure there was
25 a lot of people around. I guess he was able to get

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the questions verbally, yes or no. A nod of the head like you're doing now, I understand what that means, but when I ask you a question it has to be answered verbally, so the court reporter can take this down.

Do you understand these general instructions?

A Yes, sir.

Q Procedurally how this works?

A Yes.

Q Can you tell me, Officer Lanari,

where you presently reside?

A 521 Normandy Road, Nanuet,

N-A-N-U-E-T, New York 10954.

Q And how long have you resided in

6 Nanuet, New York?

A Five years, six years.

7 Q In or about the calendar year

8 2004, particularly around October, November 2004,

9 were you residing in Nanuet?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Prior to residing in Nanuet,

12 where did you reside?

13 A Manhattan.

14 Q Are you married or single?

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relationship, generally speaking back in 2004
calendar year, how often would you come to
Paramus, generally speaking?

A Probably four to five times a
week.

Q Does your wife also come to
Paramus often?
A Once a week we usually stop there
for dinner.

Q Where are you presently employed,
sir?

A New York City Police Department.

Q What precinct in New York City?

A Midtown North.

Q Back in October, November 2004

were you still employed in New York City Midtown
North Precinct?

A Yes.

Q Just geographically, so I
understand, are you familiar with a club called
the China Club?

A Yes.

Q Do you know what street that is

on?

A Yes, 47th Street.

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1 A I want to say August of 2005.

2 Q Now, I want to ask you a couple
3 of questions about other police departments in
4 New Jersey.

5 Do you know presently any police
6 officers personally in the Borough of North
7 Haledon Police Department?

8 A No.

9 Q Have you ever known any police
10 officers personally in the Borough of North
11 Haledon Police Department?

12 A No, I don't even know where North
13 Haledon is.

14 Q If I was to ask you, other than
15 names you may have learned through this short
16 proceeding you've been involved in, do you know
17 any names of any police officers in the Borough
18 of North Haledon?

19 A No, sir.

20 Q Do you know any police officers
21 in the Borough of Harrington Park?

22 A Not that I'm aware of.

23 Q Did you ever hear a police
24 officer by the name of Pete Faye?

25 A No.

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1 Q That name doesn't ring a bell to
2 you at all?

3 A Not at all.

4 Q Did you ever hear of a New York
5 police officer by the name of William Foley?

6 A No.

7 Q Does it ring a bell to you at
8 all?

9 A No.

10 Q Have you ever been to the Borough
11 of Harrington Park Police Department?

12 A No. That's another one I don't
13 know where it is.

14 Q Do you know any police officers
15 from the Dumont Police Department?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Who do you know from the Dumont
18 Police Department?

19 A I just know John Centrella from
20 the gym.

21 Q When is the first time that you
22 ever recall meeting John Centrella?

23 A I can't even give you a guess,
24 maybe 2003.

25 Q Under what circumstances,

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1 nothing to investigate.

2 Q What was his response to that?

3 A I don't believe he had a verbal
4 response he just looked at me puzzled and we both
5 split up.

6 Q Did you ever after that date ever
7 have any further conversation with him about Mark
8 Van?

9 A No.

10 Q Did you ever tell in any
11 conversation with Officer Centrello that you had
12 a confrontation outside the China Club with a
13 person who identified himself as a Mark Van?

14 A No.

15 Q Did you ever tell him that a
16 person who identified himself as a Mark Van had a
17 fight or some type of altercation outside the
18 China Club?

19 A No.

20 Q As you sit here today, have you
21 ever had an encounter with any person who
22 identified himself as Mark Van, either in or
23 outside the China Club?

24 A No. I just met the man just now.

25 Q Listen to my question.